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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HEMSWORTH

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the YEAR ended, 31st December, 1942.



To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I submit to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Rural District for the year ending the 31st December, 1942.

This report, which is my 22nd issue, has been compiled according to the Ministry of Health Circular 2773 (10th March, 1943). Details of local populations, and reference to activities in connection with wartime industrial and other important developments have not, therefore, been included.

The work of the Department has continued satisfactorily and I would like to express my appreciation to all who have assisted me in the working of the Department throughout the year.

Your obedient servant,

W. ROSS GARDNER,

Medical Officer of Health.

20th August, 1943.

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STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

General:-

Area (acres)	29,055
Population (middle 1942 - excluding residents serving in H.M. Forces).	45,490
No. of inhabited houses at the end of the year	11,670
Rateable value 1st April, 1942.	£ 197,526

2.

EXTRACTS from VITAL STATISTICS:-

<u>Live Births</u>	Total	M	F	1941
Legitimate	966	512	454	930
Illegitimate	41	18	23	48
<u>Birth Rate</u> per 1000 of the estimated resident population		22.14		21.21
England and Wales		15.8		
<u>Still Births</u>	43	14	29	53
<u>Rate</u> per 1000 total (live & still) births		40.95		51.41
<u>Deaths</u>	451	255	196	448
<u>Death Rate</u> per 1000 of the est.resident population		9.91		9.72
England and Wales		11.6		
<u>Deaths of Children under 1 year of age</u>	49	31	18	66
<u>Rate</u> per 1000 live & still births		2.85		3.88

Statistics for 1941 are inserted for comparative purposes from which it will be seen that the birth rate has slightly increased. The infantile mortality rate and the deaths from puerperal causes rate are lower.

<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes =</u>	3	4
<u>Rate</u> per 1000 live & still births	2.85	3.88

Out of the 451 deaths recorded, 199 were over the age of 65 years.

MISCELLANEOUS DATA (Staff).

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time) and Medical Superintendent (Part Time)
Hemsworth & Wombwell Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital

W. Ross Gardner, D.S.O; M.B; Ch.B. (Ed).

Sanitary Inspectors:- Mr. T.S. Finn (Senior).
(Additional) Mr. C.T. Peacock.
,, Mr. M. Fawcett (since June).
Mr. N. Senior (H.M. Forces).
Mr. E. Sigsworth (Merchant Navy).

Health Visitors:- Misses A. Heywood, H.C. Stabler, F. Foster, A. Parrott,
and Miss E. Booth (appointed September).

Chief Clerk - Mr. H. Hudson.

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INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>No. notified during the year.</u>
Scarlet Fever	140
Diphtheria	117
Pneumonia	33
Erysipelas	21
Cerebro-spinal-meningitis	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	81
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	16
Measles	313
Whooping Cough	78
Poliomyelitis	1
	811 total

During the year under review, there was a reduction in the number of cases notified of

Diphtheria	117	as compared with	230	1941.
Pneumonia	33	as compared with	44	1941.
C. S. M.	9	as compared with	19	1941.
Puer. Pyrexia	2	as compared with	7	1941.
Measles	313	as compared with	994	1941.
Whooping Cough	78	as compared with	1211	1941.

Cases admitted into the Isolation Hospital.

	<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	<u>Diphtheria</u>	<u>C.S.M.</u>	<u>Typhoid</u>
Hemsworth Rural District	139	117	9	-
Hemsworth Urban District	68	38	10	-
Wombwell Urban District	32	22	2	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:-

Over 11,000 children have been immunised in the area, 1,400 of these receiving full course of treatment during 1942. A propaganda campaign has been continuously maintained in this area since 1935.

SCABIES:-

Owing to the abnormal factors prevailing, scabies has increased during the year. Centres are now established at the South Elmsall and the Grimethorpe First Aid Posts for the outpatient treatment of men, women and children. Each case reported is investigated and followed up.

LABORATORY FACILITIES:-

Specimens numbering 373 were dealt with at the County Laboratory during 1942.

WATER:-

No. of samples submitted for analysis for		
Bacteriological Examination	39	(Unsatisfactory 20)
Chemical Examination	36	(Unsatisfactory 3)

SCAVENGING:-

The cost for 1942 was	£11,645
The cost of emptying cesspools	£ 1,450

SALVAGE:-

Weight collected 393 tons	£ 1,968
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CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:-

No. of Privies with open middens	50
No. of Pail or Tub Closets	160
No. of Privies with covered middens	1287
No. of Water Closets	10459

SANITARY INSPECTION etc.

No. of visits made during the year:-

Housing	428	Van dwellings	22
Nuisances and complaints	494	Petroleum	7
Slaughterhouses	92	Scavenging	169
Cowsheds and dairies	830	Schools	8
Bakehouses	4	Miscellaneous	1228
Markets	4		

NUISANCES:-

No. found 1942	169	No. of Informal Notices served	169
In hand 1941	164	No. complied with	149
	<u>333</u>		
Abated	149		
Outstanding	<u>184</u>		

PREMISES and OCCUPATIONS controlled by Byelaws or Regulations:-

	<u>No. in district and on the register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>
Houses let in lodgings	2	2
Knackers Yards	1	3
Tents, Vans etc.	12	12
Offensive Trades	59	

PETROLEUM & CARBIDE OF CALCIUM:-

No. of Licences renewed during the year	47
No. of New Licences during the year	1

MILK SUPPLY:-

No. of samples collected for bacteriological examination 47.
 Result:- 43 satisfactory (28 passed the test for Accredited milk)
 21 samples of Accredited milk were collected by the W.R.C.C. and
 17 were satisfactory.

COWSHEDS:-

		1941
No. of Milch Cows kept in the district	1560	1280
No. of Cowkeepers registered	118	149
No. of Wholesale Traders Cowshed inspections	830	460
No. of Cowsheds	165	189
No. of retail milk sellers registered	111	136

MEAT & OTHER FOODS:-

The slaughter of animals for food is still carried on at the Central Slaughterhouse within the Hemsworth Urban District, inspection being undertaken by the inspectorial staff of the Urban and Rural Districts.

No. of slaughterhouses in the Rural District	22
No. of knackeries	1

HOUSING:-

No. inspected during the year	144
No. needing action	77
No. rendered fit in consequence of informal action	67
No. rendered fit by owners as the result of action under Statutory Powers	-

DISINFECTION:-

No. of rooms disinfected for Infectious Diseases	386
No. of schools disinfected etc.	1
No. of rooms disinfected for Tuberculosis	67
No. of houses disinfested - Council 63 Others 8	

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.Infant Welfare Centres:-

The attendances at the nine centres were

Children under the age of 1	10,683
Children between 1 and 5 years	5,821
Children attending for the first time	851

Details regarding the situation and time of clinics may be obtained from the department if required.

There were 32,496 lbs. of dried milk sold at cost price at the clinics during 1942.

